

Connecticut Town Clerks Association, Inc.

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WRITTEN TESTIMONY of Kate Wall, CTCA President Connecticut Town Clerks Association

Commerce Committee
March 1, 2022

SB 219, AN ACT ELIMINATING THE MAXIMUM FEE PAYABLE TO A NOTARY PUBLIC.

Good afternoon, Senator Hartley, Representative Currey, Senator Martin, Representative Buckbee, and the distinguished members of the Commerce Committee. My name is Kate Wall. I am the Berlin Town Clerk and President of the Connecticut Town Clerks Association (CTCA). Thank you for affording me the opportunity to submit this testimony concerning **SB 219, AN ACT ELIMINATING THE MAXIMUM FEE PAYABLE TO A NOTARY PUBLIC.**

The CTCA appreciates the Commerce Committee raising this bill but would ask that an amendment to the bill be made placing a cap on the maximum fee payable to a notary public.

Notarization is often required for legal documents. The notary serves as an unbiased third party to ensure the authenticity of the signer on the legal documents. Legal documents that may need a notary include: real estate documents, health forms, insurance power of attorney, pistol permit applications, pension withdrawals, licensure applications, and many other documents. A standard set fee will ensure that Connecticut residents on fixed incomes will be able to execute their legal documents.

CTCA acknowledges the future need for reasonable fee differentials between notaries conducting traditional in-person notarization and notaries conducting remote on-line notarizations since special equipment will be needed to perform remote notarizations. CTCA supports the need to set price standards to allow all our residents to execute their legal affairs in a cost-effective manner.

CTCA appreciates the opportunity to testify on this bill.